

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5415

To designate the Memorial of Perpetual Tears, which honors victims of driving while impaired, as the official National DWI Victims Memorial.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 26, 2010

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. TEAGUE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To designate the Memorial of Perpetual Tears, which honors victims of driving while impaired, as the official National DWI Victims Memorial.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National DWI Victims
5 Memorial Designation Act of 2010”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Alcohol-impaired driving fatalities represent
9 approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of all highway fatalities in the
10 United States each year.

1 (2) In 2008, there were 11,773 alcohol-im-
2 paired driving fatalities in the United States.

3 (3) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears, located
4 adjacent to Interstate 40 in the City of Moriarty,
5 New Mexico, opened in November 2008 to honor the
6 victims of Driving While Impaired (hereinafter re-
7 ferred to as “DWI”).

8 (4) The mission of the Memorial of Perpetual
9 Tears is to raise awareness of the devastation caused
10 by DWI crashes by recognizing their victims, edu-
11 cating the public, and encouraging preventive meas-
12 ures.

13 (5) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears is the
14 only memorial of its kind in the United States.

15 (6) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears is a visi-
16 ble statement to the world expressing what words
17 cannot by portraying fatalities and injuries caused
18 by DWI.

19 (7) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears resembles
20 a veterans’ cemetery with markers representing the
21 most recent 5-year period of deaths attributed to
22 DWI in New Mexico.

23 (8) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears includes
24 a site dedicated to victims of DWI nationwide.

1 (9) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears gives rec-
2 ognition to innocent victims of DWI nationwide by
3 displaying Victim Tribute books in the memorial vis-
4 itor center. The Victim Tribute books include stories
5 and pictures submitted by injured victims and family
6 members of those killed in DWI crashes.

7 (10) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears offers
8 public education on DWI prevention as well as na-
9 tional and local DWI information to visitors.

10 (11) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears is visible
11 from Interstate 40 and attracts visitors traveling on
12 that major Interstate Highway.

13 (12) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears attracts
14 visitors from across the United States, many of
15 whom make the Memorial of Perpetual Tears the
16 destination of their trip.

17 (13) The City of Moriarty and the State of New
18 Mexico invite travelers on Interstate 40 and all
19 Americans to visit the Memorial of Perpetual Tears.

20 (14) The Memorial of Perpetual Tears helps
21 focus attention on the need to eliminate DWI as a
22 national priority.

1 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF THE MEMORIAL OF PERPETUAL**
2 **TEARS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Memorial of Perpetual Tears,
4 located adjacent to Interstate 40 in the City of Moriarty,
5 New Mexico, shall be known and designated as the “Na-
6 tional DWI Victims Memorial”.

7 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
8 ulation, document, record, or other paper of the United
9 States to the memorial described in subsection (a) shall
10 be considered to be a reference to the “National DWI Vic-
11 tims Memorial”.

